

It might also be pointed out to IG that actual border situation during past three months does not justify IG's statements that it has worsened as result US and British policies. According to IDF-released figures, during period March 5 to June 3 there were 121 border incidents, with Arab losses of 11 killed, 7 wounded, 22 captured and Israel losses of 18 killed, 15 wounded, 4 captured. Figures for preceding three months similar. During three months June 4 to September 23 were 91 incidents with Arab losses 5 killed, 2 wounded, 47 captured and Israel losses of 11 killed, 43 wounded (Jerusalem incident), and 1 captured. This indicates a continuing serious situation stemming from basic causes which we are attempting to deal with; not recently worsening one as IG has maintained.

RUSSELL

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No. 898

684A.85/9-2454: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Jordan (Mallory) to the Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

CONFIDENTIAL

AMMAN, September 24, 1954--4 p. m.

109. While yet no public admissions appears to be increasing realization by responsible leaders in this part Arab world some settlement with Israel should be made. Many private discussions so indicate. Public reaction to statements of possible peace talks, to recent announcement Selwyn Lloyd in London, et cetera are less violent than would have been true six months ago. Believe possible initiate talks within reasonable period perhaps less than one year providing Israel ceases her constant excitation public opinion here, especially raids by Israeli army. Basic issue is simply belligerent Israeli attitude and policy. Unless Israel willing contribute some measure restraint in return for prospect of peaceful settlement appears useless for major powers keep devising gimmicks and approaches. Whether self engendered or forced important that quiet ensue.

Re Deptel 123<sup>2</sup> and possible second *démarche* tripartite proposals: *Utility*: Believe succession of *démarches* without force behind them neither persuasive for Israel, needed by HKJ which wishes use UNTSO machinery nor helpful for United States prestige.

*Timing*: Many reasons indicate postponement. Israel's return MAC, which also necessary for reduction tension, will not come before Commander Hutchison's departure. See no reason for dé-

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, London, Paris, Beirut, Baghdad, Damascus, Cairo, and Jidda.

<sup>2</sup> Printed as telegram 173 to Tel Aviv, Document 896.